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LM21/0218

JOHN F SCHIPPER
2211 PARK BLVD
PALO ALTO CA 94306

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
AND ISSUE FEE DUE**

☐ Note attached communication from the Examiner

☐ This notice is issued in view of applicant's communication filed _____

| SERIES CODE/SERIAL NO. | FILING DATE | TOTAL CLAIMS | EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT | DATE MAILED |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 08/643,963 | 05/07/96 | 052 | DAM, T | 2764 02/18/98 |
| First Named Applicant | SCHULHOF, | NATHAN | | |

TITLE OF INVENTION ENHANCED DELIVERY OF AUDIO DATA

| ATTY'S DOCKET NO. | CLASS-SUBCLASS | BATCH NO. | APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | FEE DUE | DATE DUE |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 2 | 395-200.670 | A66 | UTILITY | YES | \$660.00 | 05/18/98 |

THE FEE DUE IS THE AMOUNT IN EFFECT AT THIS TIME. IF THE AMOUNT OF THE ISSUE FEE INCREASES PRIOR TO PAYMENT, APPLICANT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE BALANCE OF ISSUE FEE DUE.

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.

PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY Status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the Status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, pay of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B of this notice should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, Part C of this notice should also be completed and returned.

III. All communications regarding this application must give series code (or filing date) and serial number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 08/643,963 | 05/07/96 | SCHULHOF | N |

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| EXAMINER |
|----------|
| DAM, I |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
| 2764 | 8 |

DATE MAILED: 02/18/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Notice of Allowability

Application No.
08/643,963

Applicant(s)
Schulhof et al.

Examiner
Tuan Dam

Group Art Unit
2764



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed Jan 14, 1998.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-52.

☒ The drawings filed on May 7, 1996 are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 4.

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 6

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. *This application is in condition for allowance except for the following informal matters:*

- . New formal drawings must be submitted, see Notice of Draftsperson, PTO Form 948, paper No. 4.
- . The supplementary IDS documents submitted as part of Applicants' response to Office action, wherein the teachings relied on by the Applicants in the eleven patents have been considered. However, the citation of all eleven documents on the PTO-1449, No. A-K, have not been considered as the IDS did not comply with 37 CFR 1.97(c). (Note that, the attorney of record could not be reached and/or returned of his recorded messages.)

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable claimed subject matter:

- . The Affidavit, concerning inventorship, under 37 CFR 1.132 filed Jan 14, 1998 is sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 35-52 based upon Rule 132.

. After carefully reviewing the applicants' response in light of prior art of record and additional search of all of the possible areas relevant to the present invention, a set of related prior art have been found, but prior art references found are not deemed strong enough to make the present invention unpatentable. Although, the prior art of record discloses several claimed limitations, none of the references fairly teach or suggest an arrangement for audio information storage and playback which, at least, including (1) a universal data interface and (2) a microprocessor programed to implement a correct communications protocol for the incoming data signals, which allows automatic recognition of the proper format to receive and process a

digitized incoming signal, without requiring specification of the appropriate format, and as such manner and/or other, corresponding versions, equivalent arrangement thereof as recited in all independent claims. Therefore, claims 1, 10, 18, 27, 35 & 44 and theirs remaining respective dependent claims, claims 2-9, 11-17, 19-26, 28-34, 36-43 & 45-52, are allowable over the prior art of record.

3. The background art of interest is cited by the examiner. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan Dam whose telephone number is (703) 305-4552. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Mondays. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Todd Voeltz, can be reached on (703) 305-9714.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)


Or:

(703) 308-5356 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

TQD
2/11/98


EMANUEL TODD VOELTZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700